

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W

----- 005736

R 030928Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3710

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH MILI ECON PFOR UR

SUBJ: JOINT NATIONAL CIRCULAR ON SUPPORTING THE ARMY AND

CHERISHING THE PEOPLE

1. THIS YEAR'S TRADITIONAL JOINT CIRCULAR ON SUPPORTING THE ARMY AND CHERISHING THE PEOPLE, ISSUED BY THE STATE COUNCIL AND THE MILITARY COMMISSION OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE (NCNA DOMESTIC SERVICE JANUARY 31), IS SIMILAR IN STYLE TO LAST YEAR'S CIRCULAR BUT, IN KEEPING WITH THE CURRENT EMPHASIS ON THE ECONOMY, THERE IS GREATER REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF PRODUCTION. FOR INSTANCE, SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER SOCIALIST NEW THINGS.

2. NO MENTION IS MADE IN THE NATIONAL CIRCULAR OF PARTY AUTHORITY OVER FIELD FORCE UNITS IN THE PROVINCES, SIGNIFYING PERHAPS THAT A CONSENSUS HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED ON THIS ISSUE. THIS ISSUE SURFACED IN A BLUNT STATEMENT BY THE TSINAN

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MILITARY REGION (1974 HONG KONG 13764). SUBSEQUENTLY,

LOCAL PARTY CONTROL OVER MR UNITS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY
SOME MILITARY REGIONS AND WAFFLED BY OTHERS (HONG KONG 0537).

3. THE STOCK PHRASE ON THE PEOOLE LEARNING FROM THE ARMY
AND VICE-VERSA IS REPEATED, INDICATING NO CHANGE IN THE PLA'S
PUBLIC IMAGE FROM BOTH THE 1974 CIRCULAR AND LAST YEAR'S
PROVINCIAL ARMY DAY MESSAGE.

4. THE NATIONAL CIRCULAR ALSO REPEATS LAST YEAR'S INJUNCTION
TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST ATTACKS BY IMPERIALISM AND "SOVIET
REVISIONIST SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM IN PARTICULAR". THUS , ONCE
AGAIN, THE CHINESE MILITARY IS TOLD THAT THE SOVIETS ARE THE
MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY FACING CHINA.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE THE CIRCULAR'S RHETORIC ON DEEPENING
THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT, IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM RECENT STATEMENTS
ON THE MILITARY (HONG KONG 1199, NCNA JANUARY 29) THAT THE
PLA WILL BE PRIMARILY INVOLVED IN DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC WORK,
WITH POLITICAL TASK OCCUPYING ONLY A TERTIARY ROLE.

CROSS

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